

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested. Claims 1-41 are pending, Claims 1, 21, 22, 30, and 38 are amended and new Claims 39-41 are added by way of the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 21, 22, 30, and 38 and new Claims 39-41 are supported by the original claims and specification,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the title was objected to; Claim 37 was objected to; and Claims 1-38 were rejected as unpatentable over Schlabach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,810,406, hereinafter "Schlabach").

Initially, applicants and applicants' representatives thank Primary Examiner Jarrett for the interview held on December 19, 2005 to discuss the present case. During the interview, differences between the claimed invention and Schlabach were discussed in detail, and amendments as submitted herein were discussed to clarify the discussed differences. The Examiner agreed to reconsider the rejection of record after formal submission of the present amendment.

With regard to the objection to the title, the title is amended as suggested in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, the objection to the title is believed to be overcome.

With regard to the objection to Claim 37, it is respectfully noted that Claim 37 recites a computer readable medium itself, not a method of using a computer readable medium as stated in the outstanding Office Action at page 2, lines 11-13. Thus, the subject matter of Claim 37 is a medium where the subject matter of Claim 30 is a method. As Claim 37 is of different scope than Claim 30, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 37 is a proper dependent claim. Accordingly, the objection to Claim 37 is believed to be overcome.

¹See, e.g., the Specification at paragraph 33 and Figures 1 and 2A.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 as unpatentable over Schlabach, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites in part:

a service action system coupled to said data collection system and said data storage system, and configured to provide service action data using said service activity data by performing at least two of a plurality of service functions comprising providing service component repair for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component start-up for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component preventative maintenance for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component cleaning for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component revisions for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component enhancements for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component de-installation for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service education for a semiconductor manufacturing component, and providing service collaboration for a semiconductor manufacturing component.

In contrast, Schlabach describes a method and system for servicing a vehicle, such as a locomotive. Although Schlabach does mention that the system and method could be applied to a complex piece of equipment, there is no teaching or suggestion in Schlabach to apply the described invention to a semiconductor manufacturing component. As discussed in the background of the present application, the present inventors recognized the need for an integrated system and method for servicing semiconductor manufacturing components. Not only does Schlabach fail to recognize this problem, Schlabach does not even suggest a solution for it. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Schlabach does not teach or suggest “a service action system” as recited in amended Claim 1. Consequently, Claim 1 (and Claims 2-20 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Schlabach.

Amended Claims 21, 22, 30, and 38 also recite similar elements to Claim 1. Consequently, Claims 21, 22, 30, and 38 (and Claims 23-29 and 31-37 dependent therefrom) are also patentable over Schlabach.

New Claim 39 recites in part, “a graphical user interface of the service action system includes a menu screen allowing user access to all service functions performed by the service action system.” New Claim 39 is supported by the original disclosure, for example, by Figures 2B and 2C and paragraphs 77-83. New Claims 40 and 41 are supported by the original claims.

The outstanding Office Action cited Figure 4 of Schlabach as describing “a graphical user interface” as recited in original Claim 10. However, it is respectfully submitted that neither Figure 4 nor any other portion of Schlabach teaches or suggests that “a graphical user interface of the service action system includes a menu screen allowing user access to all service functions performed by the service action system” as recited in new Claim 39. Accordingly, new Claim 39 is patentable over Schlabach.

New Claim 40 recites in part:

a service action system coupled to said data collection system and said data storage system, and configured to provide service action data using said service activity data by performing at least **four** of a plurality of service functions comprising providing service component repair for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component start-up for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component preventative maintenance for a semiconductor manufacturing component, providing service component cleaning for a semiconductor manufacturing component, and providing service component revisions for a semiconductor manufacturing component.
(Emphasis added.)

With respect to original Claim 1, the outstanding Office Action asserted that Schlabach teaches or suggests only three of the above recited functions² (namely providing service component repair, providing service component start-up, and providing service component preventative maintenance), and only for the vehicle/equipment described by Schlabach. As Claim 40 recites functions for a semiconductor manufacturing component,

²See the outstanding Office Action at page 4, lines 9-15.

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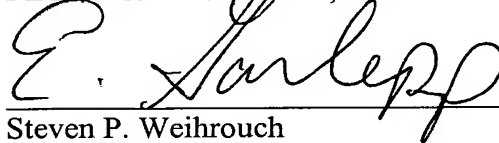
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and Schlabach does not teach or suggest providing service component cleaning or providing service component revisions for a semiconductor manufacturing component, new Claim 40 (and new Claim 41 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Schlabach.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-41 patentably distinguishes over the cited art. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Steven P. Weihrouch
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 32,829

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Edward Tracy
Registration No. 47,998

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Edwin D. Garlepp
Registration No. 45,330